

MEMHVV ESA419NJC362
RR RUGHNR
DE RUSBLK #6309 2328925
ZNY SSSSS ZZH
R 280823Z AUG 79
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 5284
INFO RUHJPG/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 688
RUSBGB/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 9198
RUDIC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 1758
RUZMHO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1836
RUSSAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7263
RUGMHR/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 489
RUFKEB/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 36
BT
S E C R E T KABUL 6309
EXDIS

E X D I S

CN 814

RKX
CHG
CHRON

L.O. 1200: RDS-4 8-26-99 (PLATIN, BRUCE A.) OR-W
TAGS: PIMR, PINS, AF, GE
SUBJ: (C) EAST GERMAN AMBASSADOR DEPARTS KABUL SCENE

1. (C) ON AUGUST 16, DR. MERRIMAN SCHWIESAU WAS EVACUATED FROM KABUL TO EAST BERLIN FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT OF WHAT HIS EMBASSY OFFICERS DESCRIBED AS THREE SERIOUS FRACTURES IN HIS LOWER LEFT LEG. SCHWIESAU WAS TAKEN BY AMBULANCE TO BE PLACED DIRECTLY ABOARD AN AEROFLOT FLIGHT; THUS HIS DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES WERE DENIED AN OPPORTUNITY TO BID HIM FAREWELL. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT HIS TREATMENT IN THE GDR WILL TAKE "AT LEAST SIX MONTHS."

2. (S) ON THE NIGHT OF AUGUST 12, WHILE SCHWIESAU AND THE A/DCM WERE DEPARTING A PARTY TOGETHER -- SHORTLY BEFORE THE CURFEW, THE EAST GERMAN SAID THAT HE WANTED TO SEE THE LATTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ABOUT AN URGENT MATTER. THE A/DCM REPLIED THAT HE WOULD CALL HIM THE NEXT DAY TO ARRANGE A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME. WHEN THE A/DCM CALLED THE EAST GERMAN EMBASSY ON AUGUST 13, HE WAS TOLD THAT SCHWIESAU HAD BROKEN HIS LEG IN A HOUSEHOLD ACCIDENT THE PRECEDING EVENING AND COULD NOT RECEIVE VISITORS.

3. (S) COMMENT: SCHWIESAU WILL BE MISSED IN KABUL'S DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY. EITHER OPERATING ON HIS OWN -- OR, MORE PROBABLY, AT SOVIET DIRECTION, HE KEPT HIS WESTERN AND THIRD WORLD COLLEAGUES "INFORMED" ABOUT SOVIET ATTEMPTS TO ARRANGE A POLITICAL SOLUTION TO THE AFGHAN INSURRECTION.
AMSTUTZ

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